The McPherson Sentinel

Bullpups send 19 to state track and field meet

By Joel Muhs

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ABILENE, Kansas - America's largest high school track and field event is now waiting on deck, and the McPherson Bullpups will be competing in 18 different events on that stage as the McPherson boys finished third and the girls fourth at regionals in Abilene last week.

The 2025 high school track and field season has finally neared its end with the state meet approaching this weekend. All eyes will be on the meet that is held at Wichita State University's Cessna Stadium due to all classifications in Kansas competing at the single location.

Joining a loaded field in Wichita will be 19 different Bullpups (25 including reserves) across 18 different events. Competing for the McPherson girls at state (including reserves) will be Izabel Backhus (4x400 relay and 4x800 relay), Karsen Burris (javelin), Andi Buschbom (long jump, 4x100 relay and 4x400 relay), Amara Dossett (4x100 relay), Kinsey Harold (4x100 relay), Ellie Herrera (high jump), Arihanna Koehn (100-meter hurdles, 300-meter hurdles, 4x100 relay and 4x400 relay), Brynn Littlejohn (shot put), Adri McLeod (4x100 relay, 200-meter dash and 4x400 relay), Lexi Patterson (4x800 relay, 3,200-meter run and 4x400 relay), Elley Paulsen (4x100 relay and 4x400 relay), Kayla Porter (4x800 relay), Ada Prose (4x800 relay), Eva Ramey (4x800 relay), Maryn Sandbo (4x400 relay and 4x800 relay), Reesa Whorton (4x800 relay) and Tylee Wilson (4x100 relay).

Competing at the state track

and field meet for the McPherson boys (including reserves) are Ethan Elder (4x800 relay, 800-meter run, 1,600-meter run and 3,200-meter run), Kayden Friesen (400-meter dash and 4x800 relay), Dylan Hall (discus), Caleb Muehler (4x800 relay), 800-meter run, 1,600-meter run and 3,200-meter run), Tripp Pelzel (4x800 relay), Micaiah Stevenson (4x800 relay), Drake Timson (4x800 relay) and Caden Wenderott (shot put and discus).

At regionals, the McPherson girls earned a fourth-place finish with 81 team points. The top finishers for



From left to right: Lexi Patterson, Kayla Porter, Izabel Backhus and Ada Prose take a photo after qualifying for state in the 4x800 relay. Photo courtesy of John Montgomery



Caleb Muehler (left) and Ethan Elder (right) take a photo after both athletes qualified for their fourth state event (4x800 relay, 800-meter run, 1,600-meter run and 3,200-meter run). Photo courtesy of John Montgomery

the McPherson girls were McLeod taking fifth in the 200-meter dash (0:26.59), Patterson taking fourth in the 3,200-meter run (11:43.48), Koehn taking first in the 100-meter and 300-meter hurdles (0:15.63 and 0:47.29), Wilson, Buschbom, Dossett and McLeod taking third in the 4x100 relay (0:50.61), Koehn, Backhus, Sandbo and Buschbom taking fifth in the 4x400 relay (4:13.45), Patterson, Porter, Backhus and Prose taking fifth in the 4x800 relay (10:08.08), Herrera taking first in the high jump (5-2), Buschborn taking first in the long jump (17-4), Burris taking third in javelin (125-11) and Littlejohn taking third in shot put (33-10.5).

The McPherson boys earned a third-place finish at regionals with 89 team points. The top finishers for the McPherson boys were Friesen taking fourth in the 400-meter dash (0:51.88), Elder taking third in the 800-meter run (1:59.20), sixth in the 1,600-meter run (4:37.75) and fourth in the 3,200-meter run (10:10.81), Muehler taking fourth in the 800-meter run (1:59.70), fifth in the 1,600-meter run (4:37.56) and first in the 3,200-meter run (10:00.26), Pelzel, Friesen, Elder and Muehler taking fourth in the 4x800 relay (8:27.77), Wenderott taking second in discus (140-2) and first in shot put (48-11) and Hall taking third in discus (132-7).

The state track and field meet will run from Friday, May 30 through Saturday, May 31. The full state track and field schedule can be found on the KSHSAA website.

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